

Message Text

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70

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 PM-07 SCI-06 COME-00 INT-08

NSF-04 CG-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01

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R 232018Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 147

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

USCINSO

SECDEF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 7217

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN, BR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR LOAN OF US SHIP FOR ANTARTIC EXPEDITION

REF: (A) CA 3253 JULY 10, 1971; (B) BRASILIA 1200 APRIL
10, 1972; (C) RIO MEMCON JANUARY 31, 1973.

1. SUMMARY. BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE OF ANTARCTIC STUDIES HAS
REQUESTED NO-COST LOAN OF USG VESSEL FOR POLAR EXPEDITIONS.
EMB PROPOSES IBEA BE REFERRED FONOFF TO ASCERTAIN IF IT
WISHES TO PURSUE REQUEST. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN NSF SKYLAND ORIENTATION
PROGRAM IN US SEPT 10-13, OFFICIALS OF INSTITUTO BRASILEIRO
DE ESTUDOS ANTARCTICOS (IBEA) INFORMALLY APPROACHED US NAVAL
MISSION SEEKING ENDORSEMENT FOR, AND INITIATION OF, ACTIONS
FOR LOAN OF USN/USCG/MSR SHIP SUITABLE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN
ANTARCTIC RESEARCH EXPEDITION DURING PERIOD DEC 73-MARCH 74.
THIS APPEARS TO BE CONTINUATION OF IBEA EFFORTS BEGUN IN
1972 (REFS B AND C) TO ACQUIRE VESSEL THROUGH LOAN OR COMMERCIAL
PURCHASE SUITABLE FOR ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

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3. IBEA NOW DESIRES SIX-MONTH NO-COST LOAN, BAREBOAT CHARTER 2,500-3,500 DWT SHIP CONFIGURED FOR ARCTIC OPS, WITH QUARTERS NECESSARY FOR CONDUCTING HYDROGRAPHIC AND OTHER SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

4. IBEA, A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION, CLAIMS SUBSCRIPTIONS READILY AVAILABLE FROM COMMERCIAL FIRMS TO SUPPORT CREWING, FUEL, AND LOGISTICS COSTS. ALTHOUGH BRAZILIAN SCIENTIFIC AND FINANCIAL LEADERS APPEAR TO SUPPORT PROJECT, IBEA HAS SO FAR HAD NO SIGNIFICANT SUCCESS IN OBTAINING GOB OR BRAZILIAN NAVY SUPPORT FOR PROJECT.

5. IN VIEW PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS THIS SUBJECT, WE BELIEVE AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE BY THE NAVAL MISSION WOULD BE THAT IBEA'S PROPOSAL APPEARS TO RELATE TO BRAZILIAN CIVILIAN-SPONSORED RESEARCH AND THAT REQUESTS FOR USG ASSISTANCE IN AN AREA SUBJECT TO INTERNATIONAL TREATY APPROPRIATELY SHOULD BE CHanneLED THROUGH BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. WE DOUBT THAT FONMIN WOULD MAKE REQUEST TO US; IF IT DID, HOWEVER, SUBJECT COULD THEN BE DELT WITH ALONG LINES INDICATED REF A.

6. PLEASE ADVISE.
CRIMMINS

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30 JUN 2005

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